

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, September 11, 2019**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of French Settlement met at 16015 Hwy. 16, French Settlement, Louisiana on the 11th day of September, 2019 at 6 p.m. in regular session convened. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Toni Guitrau with the following members present:

Alderman Teresa Miller, Alderman Danette Carrier, Alderman Rhonda Lobell

Absent: None

Also, present: Chief of Police Cary Mosby

A prayer was offered by Alderman Teresa Miller

Public Comments on Agenda Items: The mayor opened the floor to public comments on agenda items. There were no comments.

Guest Speaker(s):

- Brian Abels – District Court Judge – Division D
- Derek Babcock – Livingston Parish Council – District 6

Reading of Minutes and Statement of Finances

The motion to adopt the minutes for the month of August 2019, as presented, was made by Alderman Carrier and seconded by Alderman Miller. A ye and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier, Lobell

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

The motion to adopt the statement of finances for the month of August 2019, as presented, was made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Carrier. A ye and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier, Lobell

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Mayor Guitrau reviewed the Quick Reports (break-down of expense items) on the following line items for the month of August 2019: Miscellaneous Administration Expense \$432.58 to QLS to scan/preserve documents, Public Safety Equipment \$25.98 for a rifle part, Police Department Supplies \$139.98 for supplies for Hurricane Barry, Police – Miscellaneous \$20 for a police unit inspection sticker, Police Repairs and Maintenance on police units \$733.75.

- Mayor Guitrau also reviewed a January-August 2019 spreadsheet she prepared for the Board that reflected FEMA & Insurance Funds expended to replace the last of 2 flooded police units and equipment for \$47,598.66, FEMA funded contents replaced due to the August 2016 flood for approximately \$25,222.09. She stated that the village will be reimbursed for the \$8,076.25 Click It or Ticket, DWI Grants before the end of 2019. Reimbursement for Hurricane Barry expenses have been submitted but reimbursement may not come until 2020.

Reading of Communications: None.

Emergency Manager Report: None.

Police Department Report: A police report was placed in the Mayor and Board of Aldermen binders. There were 106 calls for service, 2 vehicle accidents, 1 arrest. The FSPD has completed its search for an approved police officer. Chief Mosby recommended to the Board, Mr. Allen Ordineaux, for the approved part-time position as Police Officer to work Monday-Friday 6:30 am – 12 pm hours. He will be assigned to road patrol, school zone enforcement and community policing. He has over 20 years of law enforcement experience in road patrol, evidence and as a detective. If approved, the position will be contingent on a background check, law enforcement psychological testing, medical release and drug testing. Alderman Carrier made a motion to accept the recommendation of Allen Ordineaux by Chief Mosby, this was seconded by Alderman Miller. A ye and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier, Lobell

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Old Business

- **Grounds Report:** Mayor Guitrau said she had the pavilion restroom sewer-line cleaned out to prevent backup of sewer prior to the upcoming Creole Festival on October 20, 2019.

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- **Road Report:** 1. City Limit signs are being checked by the FSPD to see how many are missing on village roads. The mayor is also still checking on estimates to mark the 1000-foot boundary on some of these village roads. 2. The stop-sign on Lena Lane was replaced as requested. 3. Mayor Guitrau said she was informed that when the Road Crew is in the French Settlement area, they will blacktop the Mecca Road Extension. 4. The request to have Goodtime Rd. repaired was also submitted to LP DPW. 5. The damaged culvert on Highwater Rd was said to have been removed by LP DPW. Alderman Carrier will confirm if it is the same culvert being discussed at previous meeting. 6. The replacement Amite River Bridge in French Settlement construction may begin in 2019. DOTD is awaiting two Utility Agreements to be cleared otherwise everything is ready to go. Best estimate for Letting is October 2019, so work could begin in November or December. A constituent asked if there is a way to see a design map that would show the footing etc. of the new bridge. Mayor Guitrau will request this from DOTD.
- **LGAP GRANT:** LGAP 2019-2020 Grant: At Mayor Guitrau's suggestion, the Board agreed to apply for money toward natural gas generator(s) to run municipal buildings during power outages. Mayor Guitrau will write and apply for the LGAP 2019-2020 Grant to go with funding from the LGAP 2018-2019 Grant of \$6530.00. This application is due December 6, 2019. The mayor will prepare a resolution for the next town meeting.

New Business:

- **Appoint Mayor Pro-Tem:** Mayor Guitrau stated that Alderman Miller submitted her official resignation as Mayor Pro Tem, so the Board needs to appoint a new Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Guitrau said she would like to suggest that the Board consider appointing Alderman Carrier for the remainder of the term since she has been an alderman since 2011 and only missed a couple of meetings. The mayor asked if that was good with the Board. The Board had no questions or comments. A motion was made by Alderman Miller, seconded by Alderman Lobell to appoint Alderman Carrier as Mayor Pro Tem. A yeas and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:
Yeas: Miller, Carrier, Lobell
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None
- **Resolution #2 of 2019 – Remembrance of September 11, 2001.** Alderman Carrier read Resolution #2 of 2019. A motion to approve Resolution #2 of 2019, as presented was offered by Alderman Miller, second by Alderman Lobell, A yeas and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:
Yeas: Miller, Carrier, Lobell
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None
- **Reminder:** Ethic's Classes, and Sexual Harassment classes are required to be taken by all French Settlement public officials and employees, elected and non-elected before the end of the year.

Local Events:

- The Bridge to Bridge Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2019.
- The annual Creole Festival will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2019 from 10 am-5 pm. At the last meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Kim Aydele said that the festival is a fundraiser to raise money for the Creole House Museum. Stone Envy will play music, many people are interested in setting up craft booths, and it should be a great community event. Mayor Guitrau thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Carrier. A yeas and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier, Lobell
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

/S/Toni Guitrau, Mayor

/S/Pam Melancon, Municipal Clerk